

by the waves upon the beach, where he lay in a manner inanimate. Here again he must inevitably have perished, had he not been perceived by the fair nymph of a neighbouring cottage, who kindly led him to her humble habitation, and administered every thing in her power to restore him to health.

The Prince no sooner came to himself, than he was struck with the amazing beauty of his benevolent hostess. She requested his story, and he, glad to oblige her, related every circumstance of his life from first to last.

She seemed to listen with rapture to the music of his voice, but when he had done speaking, this was her reply. O ungrateful man! why must my compassion for thee be requited with falsehood? I know thou art an impostor; for it was decreed, from the foundation of this kingdom, that two Princes of the same house should never breathe upon this land at the same time. Now I must tell thee, thou art here on the land of Content, and that the brother thou hast mentioned, is upon the throne; thou art therefore a deceiver, and art thyself the cause of thy own misfortunes.

He was stung to the heart, and was, for some time, unable to say any thing in his justification. There is indeed nothing more piercing, than a suspicion of this kind to an honest heart, especially from a person for
whose

whose favourable opinion we happen to be particularly anxious. He assured her in the most solemn manner, that he was really the person he pretended to be, but to no purpose.

She endeavoured to put a stop to his protestations, by letting him know, that every word he spoke was an addition to his crime, and to prevent more guilt, insisted on his leaving the cottage immediately.

He obeyed with tears in his eyes, and a heart swollen with grief, for he had already conceived an inexpressible passion for his fair deliverer. He resolved, however, to pursue his way towards the capital. He had made but little progress before he was surprised with the uncommon rejoicings of the people. Asking the cause, he was informed of the fate which had befallen his brother; and upon a more minute enquiry, learnt that the tyrant fell from his throne the very moment in which he himself was cast upon the shore.

He instantly returned to the object of his soul, related to her what he had heard, and in the most passionate strain, solicited her affection.

Sir, said she, since I am convinced of your veracity, I am not ashamed to confess a very singular regard for you, and that nothing would add more to my felicity than the entire possession of your heart: but, alas! you have forgotten